to accord priority to Eastern and Western Champaran and Sitamarhi districts in Northern Bihar;

(c) if so, the time by which these are likely to be opened; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Post offices in rural areas are opened keeping in view financial, distance and population norms prescribed for the purpose. Panchayat Headquarters are given preference for opening of post offices subject to fulfilment of these norms.

(b) Out of a target of 250 branch extra-departmental post offices to be opened in Bihar during the year 1991-92, the target assigned for East Champaran, West Champaran and Sitamari distinct are 5, 5 and 7 respectively.

(c) These Post Offices are expected to be opened by 31.3.92.

(d) Does not arise.

[*English*]

Negligible Broadcast of Hindi Programmes by Air, Dibrugarh

3987. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA: Will the Minister of INFROMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether due to negligible broadcast of Hindi Programmes by All India Radio, Dibrugarh in Upper Assam and poor reception of Vividh Bharati and other programmes, the entire area is deprived of to the listening the programmes;

(b) if so, whether government propose to install a low power transmitter at Dibrugarh for relay of Vividh Bharati programmes; and

(c) if so, the details of the plan and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFROMATION AND BRODACSTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) to (c). The All India Radio Station at Dibrugarh broadcasts programmes in a number of languages including Hindi. Hindi news bulletins and some programmes in Hindi are also relayed from Delhi. An intergrated North-Eastern service functioning from Shillong lao originates programmes in Hindi in addition to relaying National Programmes in Hindi.

There is no proposal to set up a transmitter at Dibrugarh for relay of Vividh Bharati programmes as the area does not fulfill the following criteria:-

i) Size of the potential audience

ii) Density of population and

iii) Market potential.

Renewal of Interest by World bank for Power sector

3988. SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank has renewed its interest to fiance the power sector in India;

(b) whether a high power delegation has made some negotiations with the Power finance corporation; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?